

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A substrate structure which is a precursor to an electron source, comprising:
 - a substrate; and
 - an insulating material film provided on said substrate,
 - wherein said insulating material film includes a metallic oxide and has a vacancy, and said insulating material film has a surface on which ~~an electron-emitting device~~ a member for electron emission of the electron source is to be disposed.
2. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 1, wherein said metallic oxide is an electronically conductive oxide.
3. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 1, wherein said metallic oxide is SiO₂.
4. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said insulating material film has a ratio of said vacancy in its cross section within the range of 5% to 10%.

5. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein a thickness of said insulating material film is within the range of 150 nm to 3 μm .

6. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said insulating material film further contains phosphorus.

7. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein an insulating material of said insulating material film is SiO_2 .

8. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein on said insulating material film, a film comprising an insulating material is further laminated.

9. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 8, wherein a thickness of the insulating material film comprising said insulating material is within the range of 20 nm to 3 μm .

10. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 8, wherein said insulating material is SiO_2 .

11. (Currently Amended) A substrate structure which is a precursor to an electron source, comprising:

- a substrate; and
- an insulating material film provided on said substrate,

wherein said insulating material film includes a plurality of metallic oxide particles and has a vacancy provided among said plurality of metallic oxide particles, and said insulating material film has a surface on which ~~an electron-emitting device~~ a member for electron emission of the electron source is to be disposed.

12. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 11, wherein said insulating material film has a ratio of said vacancy in its cross section within the range of 5% to 10%.

13. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 11 or 12, wherein a thickness of said insulating material film is within the range of 150 nm to 3 μm .

14. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to any one of claims 11 or 12, wherein said insulating material film further contains phosphorus.

15. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to any one of claims 11 or 12, wherein an insulating material of said insulating material film is SiO₂.

16. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to any one of claims 11 or 12, wherein on said insulating material film, a film comprising an insulating material is further laminated.

17. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 16, wherein a thickness of the insulating material film made of said insulating material is within the range of 20 nm to 3 μm.

18. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 16, wherein said insulating material is SiO₂.

19. (Currently Amended) A substrate structure which is a precursor to an electron source, comprising:

- a substrate;
- a metallic oxide particle layer including a plurality of metallic oxide particles provided on said substrate; and
- an insulating material film provided on said metallic oxide particle layer,

wherein said metallic oxide particle layer has a vacancy, and said insulating material film has a surface on which ~~an electron-emitting device~~ a member for electron emission of the electron source is to be disposed.

20. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 19, wherein said metallic oxide particle layer has a ratio of said vacancy in its cross section within the range of 5% to 10%.

21. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 19 or 20, wherein said insulating material film further contains phosphorus.

22. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 19 or 20, wherein an insulating material of said insulating material film is SiO₂.

23. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 11 or 19, wherein an average particle size of said plurality of metallic oxide particles is within the range of 6 nm to 60 nm.

24. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 11 or 19, wherein an average particle size of said plurality of metallic oxide particles is within the range of 6 nm to 20 nm.

25. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 11 or 19, wherein the size of said vacancy is within the range of 0.1 to 5 times an average particle size of said plurality of metallic oxide particles.

26. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 11 or 19, wherein the size of said vacancy is within the range of 0.1 to 2 times an average particle size of said plurality of metallic oxide particles.

27. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 11 or 19, wherein said metallic oxide particles are electronically conductive particles.

28. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 11 or 19, wherein said metallic oxide particles are particles of SnO_2 .

29. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to any one of claims 1, 11 or 19, wherein said substrate is a substrate containing sodium.

30. (Previously Presented) The substrate structure according to claim 29, wherein said insulating material film is a sodium blocking film.

31. (Currently Amended) The substrate structure according to any one of claims 1, 11 or 19, wherein said insulating material film is ~~[[a]]~~ an antistatic film.

32. (Currently Amended) An electron source, comprising a substrate and ~~an electron-emitting device~~ a member for electron emission arranged on said substrate, wherein said substrate is the substrate structure according to any one of claims 1, 11 or 19.

33. (Currently Amended) The electron source according to claim 32, wherein said electron-emitting device is ~~an electron-emitting device~~ a member for electron emission comprising a conductive film including an electron-emitting portion.

34. (Currently Amended) The electron source according to claim 32, wherein a plurality of said ~~electron-emitting devices~~ members for electron emission are matrix-wired by a plurality of row-directional wirings and a plurality of column-directional wirings.

35. (Currently Amended) An image display apparatus comprising at least one ~~electron-emitting device~~ member for electron emission, an image display member for displaying images by irradiation of at least one electron from said ~~electron-emitting device~~ member for electron emission, and an envelope in which said ~~electron-emitting device~~ member for electron emission and said image display member are arranged, wherein

a substrate where said ~~electron-emitting device~~ member for electron emission is arranged is a substrate structure according to any one of claims 1, 11 or 19.

36. (Currently Amended) The image display apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said ~~electron-emitting device~~ member for electron emission is an electron-emitting device comprising a conductive film containing an electron-emitting portion.

37. (Currently Amended) The image display apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the at least one ~~electron-emitting device~~ member for electron emission includes a plurality of electron-emitting devices matrix-wired by a plurality of row-directional wirings and a plurality of column-directional wirings.